**Constructing new roads in NER**

*146. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are constructing new roads in the rural/hillylbackward areas of the country particularly in the North Eastern Region (NER);

(b) if so, the total kilometers of roads to be constructed in the country during the year 2007-08, State-wise; and

(c) the details of total funds allotted to these States for construction of roads in rural areas of the country?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (DR. RAGHUVANSH PRASAD SINGH): (a) Under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY), it is targeted to provide connectivity, by way of an all weather road, to all unconnected habitations in rural areas with a population of 500 persons and above (250 persons and above in respect of the hill States, the tribal areas and the desert areas). Under Bharat Nirman (rural roads component), which is a time bound targeted programme, it is proposed to connect all habitations with population of 1000 persons or more in the plain areas and all habitations with population of 500 persons or more in the hill States, tribal areas and desert areas with an all-weather road by 2009.

(b) Targets of road length (in km.) to be constructed and upgraded under Bharat Nirman during the year 2007-08 have been given State-wise in Statement-I (*See* below).

(c) Total funds release upto 20.08.2007 under PMGSY to North Eastern States have been given in Statement-II.

***Statement-I***

*Targets for construction of new roads (new connectivity) and up gradation under Bharat Nirman (rural roads component) for the year 2007-08*

(Length in km.)

| Sl. No. | State | New Connectivity | Upgradation |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 1 | Andhra Pradesh | – | 2258.65 |
| 2 | Arunachal Pradesh | 646.88 | – |
| 3 | Assam | 3889.85 | 2269.81 |
| 4 | Bihar | 6121.43 | 3510.64 |
| 5 | Chhattisgarh | 6450.64 | 3240.42 |
| 6 | Goa | – | 190.11 |
| 7 | Gujarat | 438.68 | 1557.97 |
| 8 | Haryana | – | 1146.79 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | Himachal Pradesh | 638.54 | 1694.27 |
| 10 | Jammu and Kashmir | 1781.87 | 920.91 |
| 11 | Jharkhand | 1812.30 | 2123.49 |
| 12 | Karnataka | – | 2573.53 |
| 13 | Kerala | – | 524.11 |
| 14 | Madhya Pradesh | 8326.85 | 6614.38 |
| 15 | Maharashtra | – | 4334.37 |
| 16 | Manipur | 464.29 | – |
| 17 | Meghalaya | 140.09 | 587.58 |
| 18 | Mizoram | 277.88 | 258.00 |
| 19 | Nagaland | 109.51 | 246.91 |
| 20 | Orissa | 2524.02 | 4663.14 |
| 21 | Punjab | – | 1483.05 |
| 22 | Rajasthan | 3554.22 | 4653.74 |
| 23 | Sikkim | 108.04 | 137.80 |
| 24 | Tamil Nadu | – | 2824.43 |
| 25 | Tripura | 354.70 | 383.84 |
| 26 | Uttar Pradesh | 2059.21 | 6956.03 |
| 27 | Uttarakhand | 1025.64 | 1283.35 |
| 28 | West Bengal | 3265.31 | 2878.97 |
| | TOTAL: | 43989.93 | 59316.28 |

***Statement-II***

*Funds released under PMGSY to North Eastern States upto 20.08.2007*

| Sl. No. | State | Release under | | Total |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | Cess | ADB assistance | |
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 1 | Arunachal Pradesh | 233.68 | – | 233.68 |
| 2 | Assam | 1057.35 | 250 | 1307.35 |
| 3 | Manipur | 180.5 | – | 180.5 |
| 4 | Meghalaya | 123.17 | – | 123.17 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | Mizoram | 271.89 | | 271.89 |
| 6 | Nagaland | 161.56 | | 161.56 |
| 7 | Sikkim | 212.6 | | 212.6 |
| 8 | Tripura | 170.89 | | 170.89 |
| | TOTAL: | 2411.64 | 250 | 2661.64 |

ADB : Asian Development Bank

**Anusandhan Vikas Ratna and Anusandhan Mini Vikas Ratna**

*147. SHRI TAPAN KUMAR SEN:
SHRI MOHAMMED AMIN:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to accord status of Anusandhan Vikas Ratna and Anusandhan Mini Vikas Ratna to some private companies in line with Raksha Udyog Ratna (RUR); and

(b) if so, the details of the same?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is studying possibility of identifying industries, especially small and medium scale industries, who can become DRDO partners during product development, in highly specialised fields.

**Import of pulses**

†*148. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the import of pulses is being encouraged to increase their availability in the country;

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) the reasons for non-availability of those economic incentives to private sector's agencies which are available to Government agencies for the import of pulses; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.